



GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and
Investment

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Ms. Rocío Medina Bolívar
Country Representative - Belize
Inter-American Development
Bank 1024 Newtown Barracks
Belize City, Belize

**Ref: Government of Belize Request for Technical Cooperation to support project,
"Implementation of the Systemic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)"**

Dear Ms. Medina Bolívar,

On behalf of the Government of Belize, I am writing to request non-reimbursable Technical Cooperation (TC) resources from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to support Belize with the implementation of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF).

SOFF is a mechanism designed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to help countries address gaps in basic weather and climate observation data. Belize has been one of the first countries globally to be approved funding support through SOFF. This was done through the National Meteorological Service of Belize working along with the UK Met Office as its Peer Advisor and the IDB as the Implementing Entity.

In Belize, a Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) analysis conducted by the World Meteorological Organization in June 2023 revealed that the country needs one surface and one upper air observation station to meet basic GBON standards. However, an analysis done with Belize's Peer Advisor recommended that one more surface station located in the southernmost town of Belize, Punta Gorda, would provide additional benefits. Further to this, Belize along with its SOFF Peer Advisor, the UK Met Office, submitted a SOFF Investment Phase Funding Request to the SOFF Secretariat to address gaps in equipment, human resources and institutional capacity. This funding request totaling USD 860,694 was subsequently approved by the SOFF Secretariat and implementation is to be done with the funds directed through Belize's SOFF Implementing Entity, the IDB.

We are also requesting that the National Meteorological Service of Belize act as the Executing Agency.

Sincerely,



Hon. Christopher Coye
Minister of State

Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment

- cc. Mr. Carlos Pol, Ag. Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Economic Development
Ms. Kennedy Carillo, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Blue Economy and Disaster Risk Management
Mr. Duane Belisle, Director of Policy & Planning Unit, Ministry of Economic Development